

FULL SPEED AHEAD FOR VICTORY


The USA was slow to enter WWII even though there were signs of trouble in Europe and Asia but war was declared after an attack on Pearl Harbor on December 7, 1941. US savings bonds were sold to cover war costs and the USA entered the war. Correspondence through V-mail and censored letters from our military in the Pacific kept the home fires burning until Japanese surrender was declared on September 2, 1945 aboard the USS Missouri in Tokyo Harbor.



1942 Jacques Minkus WW2 Cover Full Speed to Victory UNC

The median income during World War II was about \$2,000 a year. 134 million Americans were asked to purchase war bonds to help fund the war. Stamps could be purchased starting at 10 cents each to save toward a bond.


At the end of World War II, January 3, 1946, the last proceeds from the victory War Bond campaign were deposited into the U.S. Treasury. More than 85 million Americans—half the population—purchased bonds totaling \$185.7 billion. Those incredible results, due to the mass selling efforts of helping to finance the war, have never since been matched.




DEFENSE STAMP ALBUM

For the purchase of

UNITED STATES DEFENSE SAVINGS BONDS





THIS IS YOUR Ten-Cent Defense Stamp Album. Fill it with 187 Ten-Cent Defense Stamps. Add 5c in coin, and it will have a value of \$18.75. Exchange it at the post office for a Defense Savings Bond which, after 10 years, will be worth \$25. Then start filling another Defense Stamp Album.

Defense Stamps are sold in five denominations—10c, 25c, 50c, \$1, and \$5. With your first purchase of any Defense Stamp, you are entitled to receive, free of charge, an Album for mounting that kind of Stamp.

Mount none but 10c Defense Stamps in this Album. Be sure to affix Stamps securely.







AS YOU FILL this Album with Defense Stamps it will rapidly grow in value and should be guarded against theft or loss. A precaution is to carry your Album in a self-addressed stamped envelope, with a written request on the envelope to return to you if found.

This Album is the property of—


Name FRONTIER, ANTHONY


Address 3543 LEXINGTON ST


City CHICAGO State ILL.

 10c	 20c	 30c	 40c	 50c	 60c	 70c
 80c	 90c					
		\$1.00	\$1.10	\$1.20	\$1.30	\$1.40










POSTAL SAVINGS PLAN
for the Purchase of

UNITED STATES
DEFENSE
SAVINGS BONDS





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US Savings Bond Commemorative Stamp

In celebration of the 50th anniversary of the E Series Savings Bond, the U.S. Postal Service issued a U.S. Savings Bond commemorative stamp on April 30.

The 29-cent stamp features a vibrant illustration of a bald eagle on a red and white vertical-striped background. Above the eagle are the words "US Savings Bonds" in blue on a gold background. "29" and "USA" are printed in gold across the eagle's dark brown feathers, and the words "FIFTIETH ANNIVERSARY" appear in white drop-out type over a gold background at the bottom of the stamp.

U.S. Secretary of the Treasury Nicholas F. Brady and Postmaster General Anthony M. Frank introduced the stamp on the grounds of the Federal Treasury Building in Washington, D.C. The ceremony kicked off a nationwide celebration on May 1, the actual 50th anniversary date of the savings bond.



FIRST DAY OF ISSUE



Burma Road, 717-mile lifeline to China



America's first peacetime draft, 1940



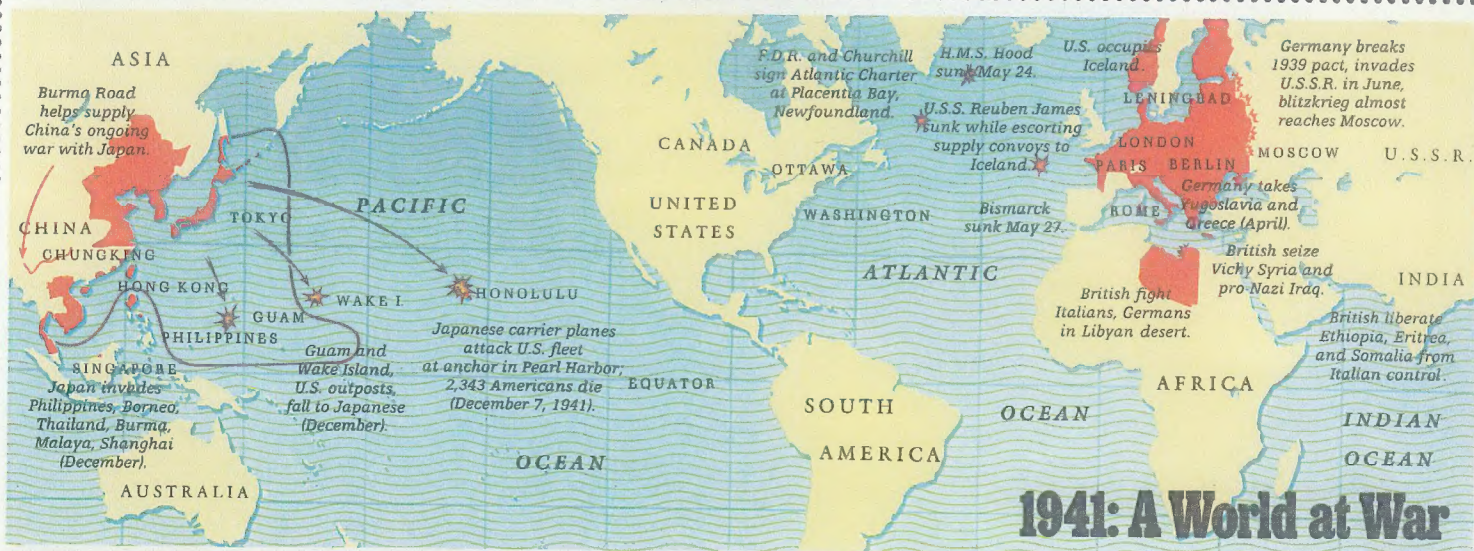
U.S. supports allies with Lend-Lease Act



Atlantic Charter sets war aims of allies



America becomes "arsenal of democracy"



Destroyer Reuben James sunk October 31



Civil Defense mobilizes Americans at home



First Liberty ship delivered December 30



Japanese bomb Pearl Harbor, December 7



U.S. declares war on Japan, December 8

1941 saw the US losing ground in the Pacific after an attack on Pearl Harbor forced a declaration of war. It was not until two and a half years later General MacArthur was able to retake the Philippines in the Battle for Leyte Gulf, October 23-26, 1944.



Battle for Leyte Gulf, October 23-26, 1944

FIRST DAY OF ISSUE

World War II - 1944: Road to Victory

Victory mail originated in England with the microfilming of specially designed letter sheets. Thousands of tons of shipping space could be reserved for war materials and the 37 mail bags that were needed to carry 150,000 one page letters could be replaced by one mail sack.



"I think your unwillingness to tell me what Stella has to say about the English indicates that you have read some censorship rules on what soldiers can write to America. Those rules are not vice versa, you can say anything you want (that is, I believe you can) We are not allowed to say anything disparaging about any of our Allies."

"Some of the guys had their letters sent back to them because the censor said they done too much crabbing. Getting so about all one can write is hello & good bye."



Print the complete address in plain letters in the panel below, and your return address in the space provided on the right. Use typewriter, dark ink, or dark pencil. Faint or small writing is not suitable for photographing.

PAID BY 18655 S
NOV EXAMINED
(CENSOR'S STAMP)

TO: MISS AUDREY ELLISON
BEACONSFIELD,
IOWA
RT.

FROM: PFC STEWART V ELLISON
ASN 27117533
APO 7833 74 ASTORIA
Ore 97117533
SAN FRANCISCO, CALIF
(Sender's complete address above)

SEE INSTRUCTION NO. 2

Dear Sis & all. Not much here & Nov. 3-44.
write, got your letter in eight days, am
getting along pretty good. How is everyone.
Not doing much of anything, just sitting
around getting our pay as usual & wasting
the taxpayers money. This army sure is
one big joke. The draft board ought to
see some of the men over here, they
have better 4Fers running around in the
states, maybe some day they will figure
out what they want to do. Some of the guys had
their letters sent back to them because the
censor said they done too much crabbing.
Getting so about all one can write is hello
& good bye. The beads I sent should be there
soon. Sent opal some, a belt of hearts made
of coconuts. Tell mom she was right about
the flower boy. Write when you can
Stewart

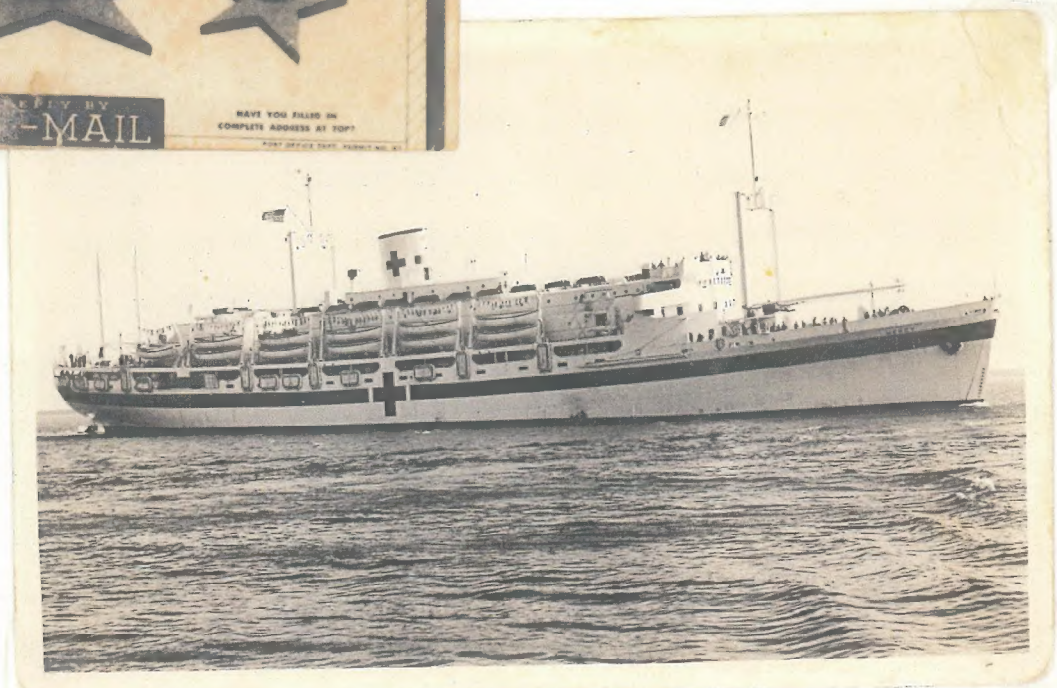
HAVE YOU FILED IN COMPLETE ADDRESS AT TOP?

REPLY BY V-MAIL

HAVE YOU FILED IN COMPLETE ADDRESS AT TOP?



Sign on Guadalcanal, published in Sarasota Herald Tribune, 9/23/43 and Life Magazine, 9/27/43. Photos from the Pacific from unidentified photographer returned on Hospital Ship after the Battle for Leyte Gulf by PFC Stewart V. Ellison.



The USS San Pedro assisted in the initial assault on Leyte and escorted resupply convoys to Leyte. The San Pedro received 4 battle stars and returned to Boston for repairs on Dec. 17, 1944. This letter was written three days after an attack and the rescue of 178 survivors on a merchant ship.



The USS San Pablo was active in the Philippines and received 4 battle stars for WWII action. In late December, 1944, the USS San Pablo joined action against a kamikaze attack with four crew members wounded in a near miss with shrapnel. Kenneth D. Gilbert was born in Independence, Mo in 1919, and was skilled in building aircraft.





Marines raise flag on Iwo Jima, Feb. 23, 1945



Fierce fighting frees Manila by March 3, 1945



Okinawa, the last big battle, April-June 1945



U.S. and Soviets link up at Elbe River, April 1945



Allies liberate Holocaust survivors, early 1945



Germany surrenders at Reims, May 7, 1945



By 1945, World War II has uprooted millions



Truman announces Japan's surrender, Aug. 14, 1945



News of victory hits home, Aug. 14-15, 1945



Hometowns honor their returning veterans, 1945

Japan signed a formal surrender September 2, 1945 aboard the U.S.S. Missouri. An enterprising collector in Yokohama prepared a cover in memory of the day. Notice the black border resembles a mourning cover and the city name Nagasaki was placed on the cover.

